

Message Text

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DEPT PASS COMMERCE FOR DAS SHERWIN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EIND, OECD

SUBJECT: MEETING OF INDUSTRY COMMITTEE'S ENLARGED
BUREAU, FEB. 17-18

1. THE ENLARGED BUREAU OF THE INDUSTRY COMMITTEE MET FEB. 17-18 ATTENDED BY COMMERCE DAS SHERWIN WHO REPORTED ON THE FIRST JOINT WORKING PARTY MEETING ON TECHNOLOGY AND STRUCTURAL ADAPTATION OF INDUSTRY (REPORTED IN SEPTEL). BUREAU INTEREST IN THIS ACTIVITY APPEARED HIGH AND BUREAU SUPPORTED SHERWIN'S EFFORTS IN MASTERNING PRACTICAL INDUSTRIAL APPROACH TO PROJECT STUDIES.

2. IC PROGRAM OF SECTORAL STATISTICS RECEIVED INTENSE REVIEW WITH THE REQUEST OF THE NOVEMBER MEETING REFERRED TO THE SECRETARIAT TO PROVIDE FACTS AS TO COSTS, UTILIZATION, ALTERNATIVE SOURCES, AND RELATIONSHIP TO OECD WORK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AS BASIS FOR INTELLIGENT ANALYSIS BY THE IC. THE BUREAU AGREED THAT APPROPRIATE ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN AT THE MARCH MEETING.

3. ROLE OF INDUSTRY COMMITTEE RE WORK OF THE HIGH LEVEL GROUPS WAS DISCUSSED WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO DSTI/IND/76.08 ON INDUSTRIAL ASPECTS OF DEVELOPMENT UNCLASSIFIED

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MENT CO-OPERATION AND INVOLVEMENT OF PRIVATE SECTOR.

INTEREST APPEARED HIGH AND ISSUE RECEIVED FURTHER ATTENTION AS A POSSIBLE THEME FOR A MINISTERIAL MEETING LATE THIS YEAR OR DURING 1977. IT WAS GENERALLY AGREED THAT WHILE MUCH HIGH LEVEL ATTENTION WAS BEING GIVEN TO MACRO APPRAISALS OF VARIOUS ISSUES, MICRO ANALYSES OF IMPORTANT SECTORS ARE EQUALLY IMPORTANT AND THAT THE IC COULD BRIDGE THIS CONCEPTUAL GAP.

4. ENLARGED BUREAU HELD FIRST DISCUSSION OF 1977 WORK

PROGRAM WHICH WOULD INCLUDE: (HORIZONTAL) PERSPECTIVE REVIEW, FUTURE INDUSTRIAL STRUCTURES, REGIONAL POLICIES, INDUSTRIAL STATISTICS, MNE'S, ENERGY AND RAW MATERIALS; (VERTICAL) AD HOC SECTORAL STUDIES, AND JOINT WP ON TECHNOLOGY AND STRUCTURAL ADAPTATION. DRAFT AGENDA (IND/A(76)1) FOR MARCH IC APPROVED BY BUREAU. AGENDA INCLUDES CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS PREPARED BY FOUR AD HOC WP'S ON ALUMINUM, IRON AND STEEL, PULP AND PAPER, TEXTILES AND CLOTHING. AUSTRALIAN PROPOSAL ON STRUCTURAL PROBLEMS IN THE AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY IS ALSO INCLUDED.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE AS TO WHETHER US POSITION ON AUSTRALIAN PROPOSAL REMAINS UNCHANGED AND THAT WE CONTINUE TO OPPOSE THIS STUDY.

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